



September 23, 2020

Dear WTPS Families and Staff,

I am greatly disheartened to share with you the District's need to extend the remote instruction model at Washington Township High School until Monday, September 28th.

Within in the past 24 hours the District has been made aware of positive COVID-19 cases involving one staff member and several students at the high school. Our nurses, along with the Gloucester County Department of Health, are in the midst of a large-scale contact tracing effort to help determine the route of infection and to identify and quarantine close contacts who may have been exposed. This takes time and cannot be completed in advance of school opening tomorrow.

I know this is equally disappointing for those eager to return to school, but by extending the remote instruction we will hopefully help to curb the spread and allow the high school to open on Monday, September 28th.

Therefore, and once again, I am compelled to postpone in-person instruction for all high school students (including Cohort C) until Monday, September 28th. All other schools in the District, except for Hurffville Elementary School, will remain open for hybrid learning. Hurffville will begin its hybrid schedule on Monday, September 28th. All athletics, as well as all in-person school activities, at the high school will be suspended until further notice.

Gloucester County is experiencing a spike in COVID-19 cases. We are monitoring the situation carefully while working alongside the Gloucester County Department of Health. We are committed to doing all that we can to keep our school community safe as we continue to work toward opening all our schools. It has been a significant challenge. We truly appreciate the willingness of our community to share information with contact tracing efforts; it works to serve us all.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. Bollendorf
Superintendent

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